



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3733

AF
JFW

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re: U.S. Patent Application of
BURNS PHILLIPS and LARRY GRIFFITH

Application No. 10/613,424

Filed: July 2, 2003

For: SURGICAL RETRACTOR WITH
IMPROVED ARM

)
) Examiner: David C. Comstock
)
) Conf. No.: 5198
)
) Art Unit: 3733
)
) Attorney Docket No.: 5431 P 010
) (50243-00001)

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 5, 2006

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 5, 2006. A shortened statutory period of three months has been set for response, making this Reply due on July 5, 2006. This Reply is being timely submitted within the shortened statutory period, and thus no additional fee is required.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the rejections made in the Office Action in view of the Amendments and Remarks made herein, such Amendments being in complete compliance with the Examiner's Response to Arguments in the aforementioned Office Action. Reconsideration of the referenced application, including all pending claims, is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and the remarks set forth below.

Listing of Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.